

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /067 W  
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3252  
INFO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1195

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, SHUN, US, HA  
SUBJ: MEETING WITH HAITIAN PERM REP: HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI

REF: TYSON MEMORANDUM OF APRIL 6 TO JOHN BAKER

1. SUMMARY. HAITIAN PERM REP SERGE CHARLES MET MISOFFS AT FORMER'S REQUEST ON 21 APRIL. STRESSING THAT MEETING WAS INFORMAL, AND HE WAS NOT SPEAKING ON INSTRUCTIONS, CHARLES EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE REPORT THAT MISOFF HAD MET WITH FIVE HAITIAN EXILES (REFERENCE) AND HAD NOT NOTIFIED HIM AS A USUAL COURTESY. CHARLES STRESSED THAT NEW GOH HAD STEADILY IMPROVED HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION, THAT THE GOH SUPPORTS US HUMAN RIGHTS EMPHASIS, IS EAGER TO WORK WITH USG, AND THAT THE FIVE EXILES DO NOT REPRESENT WITH ANY INTEGRITY THE HAITIAN PEOPLE BUT MUST BE CONSIDERED AS POLITICAL OPPORTUNISTS. SPEAKING IN CONFIDENCE, CHARLES SAID THAT MOST OF THE 40 "POLITICAL PRISONERS" NOW JAILED IN HAITI WILL BE RELEASED SOON. END SUMMARY.

2. HAITIAN PERM REP SERGE CHARLES CALLED ON MISOFFS AT HIS REQUEST TO DISCUSS A MEETING BETWEEN MISOFF AND 5 HAITIAN EXILES ON APRIL 5 (REPORTED IN REFERENCE). CHARLES  
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SAID HE LEARNED OF THE MEETING FROM AN AFP REPORT AND HAD BEEN EMBARRASSED WHEN QUERIED ABOUT IT BY HIS FOREIGN MINISTER. MISOFF APOLOGIZED FOR ANY PROBLEM THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN CAUSED AND ASSURED CHARLES OF THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE CORDIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR MISSIONS. CHARLES EMPHASIZED THAT HE WAS SPEAKING INFORMALLY AND WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS AND ASSURED US THAT THE MATTER REFERRED

TO WAS ALREADY FORGOTTEN. HE DID, HOWEVER, WANT TO ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, HE SAID.

3. ELIE CHARLES EMPHASIZED "WE HAVE NOTHING AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS; WE ARE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS", THAT THE REGIME OF DR. DUVALIER "HAS A RECORD OF STEADY IMPROVEMENT IN THAT FIELD". BUT, HAITI IS DIFFERENT FROM THE US, AND THE FIRST CONCERN OF GOVERNMENT IS IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE HAITIAN PEOPLE.

4. SPEAKING IN CONFIDENCE, HE SAID THAT THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT 40 POLITICAL PRISONERS IN HAITI TODAY, ABOUT WHOM THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT MAKES NO SECRET. MOST OF THESE WILL SOON BE RELEASED; HOWEVER, DR. DUVALIER TOLD CHARLES RECENTLY THAT ABOUT 10 OF THEM ARE PROFESSIONAL SUBVERSIVES, TRAINED IN THE USSR, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BULGARIA, AND CHINA, AND ARE TOO DANGEROUS TO RELEASE.

5. TAKING HIM UP ON HIS STATEMENT THAT "WE ARE WILLING TO WORK WITH YOU WITHOUT HYPOCRISY OR LYING", MISOFF INFORMALLY DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITIES OF HELPING PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI. MISOFF ASKED IF THE GOH MIGHT BE WILLING TO RECEIVE A MISSION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. CHARLES SAID HE THOUGHT SO, SINCE HAITI HAS NOTHING TO HIDE. MISOFF SUGGESTED AN INVITATION TO TOM FARER (US MEMBER OF INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS). CHARLES SAID HE WAS SURE THIS COULD BE ARRANGED. YOUNG

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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